

PENDING CLAIMS

1. A security document comprising:
a substrate;
text printed on the substrate;
a graphic carried by the substrate, the graphic conveying a visual impression to human viewers thereof;
the graphic additionally being steganographically encoded to secretly convey plural bits of digital data recoverable by computer analysis of said graphic.
2. The document of claim 1 in which the graphic is an image.
3. The document of claim 2 in which the image is a photographic image.
4. The document of claim 1 wherein said digital data corresponds to at least part of said printed text.
5. The document of claim 1 wherein said digital data serves as an index into a registry containing additional information.
6. The document of claim 1 wherein said steganographic encoding does not visibly interrupt said graphic.
7. The document of claim 1 wherein said steganographic encoding adds noise to the graphic, said noise not being perceptible as a representation of said plural-bit digital data except by computer analysis, wherein the encoded graphic does not appear to convey digital data to human viewers thereof.
8. The document of claim 1 in which the printed text and the steganographically encoded plural bits of digital data cooperate to verify authenticity of the security document.

9. The document of claim 8 in which the graphic is an image.
10. The document of claim 9 in which the image is a photographic image.
11. The document of claim 8 wherein said digital data corresponds to at least part of said printed text.
12. The document of claim 8 wherein said digital data serves as an index into a registry containing additional information.
13. The document of claim 8 wherein said steganographic encoding does not visibly interrupt said graphic.
14. The document of claim 8 wherein said steganographic encoding adds noise to the graphic, said noise not being perceptible as a representation of said plural-bit digital data except by computer analysis, wherein the encoded graphic does not appear to convey digital data to human viewers thereof.
15. An identity document according to claim 8.
16. An identity document according to claim 1.
17. A photo ID document comprising:
 - a photograph on a substrate, the photograph portraying an individual;
 - multi-bit information steganographically encoded within said photograph, said steganographic encoding not visibly interrupting the photograph;
 - wherein said encoding of the photograph serves to add noise thereto, but this noise is not perceptible as a representation of said multi-bit information except by computer analysis, wherein the encoded photograph appears to convey only an image of the individual to human viewers thereof.